

REMARKS

Claims 5-8, 13, and 15-19 are now present in this application. Claims 5 and 18 are independent.

Claims 15-19 have been added, claims 9-12 have been canceled and claims 5 and 13 have been amended. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph

Claims 9-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner has set forth certain instances wherein the claim language lacks antecedent basis.

In order to overcome this rejection, Applicants have canceled claims 9-12 and amended claim 13 to correct each of the deficiencies specifically pointed out by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103

Claims 5-6, 9-10, 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Myerscough and claims 5, 6, 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Ito et al. Further, claims 7 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Myerscough or Ito et al. in view of Ryan et al., claims 8 and 12 stand rejected as being obvious over Myerscough or Ito et al. in view of Ryan et al. and Durazzani. Claims 13 and 14 stand rejected as being obvious over Ito et al. in view of Myerscough. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Complete discussions of the Examiner's rejections are set forth in the Office Action, and are not being repeated here.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejections, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 5 has been amended to recite a combination of elements in a drum type washing machine

including a cabinet forming an exterior, a tub in the cabinet to hold water, a drum in the tub to hold a detergent and the water, a rotational shaft penetrating into the tub to be coupled with a rear side of the drum, a motor transferring a driving force to the rotational shaft and a damper provided between the tub and the cabinet to attenuate vertical, horizontal, and front-to-rear vibrations transferred to the tub by a rotation of the drum, the damper comprising first and second dampers provided at left and right sides under a bottom of the tub to attenuate the vertical and horizontal vibrations and a third damper provided in rear of the tub and under the bottom of the tub to attenuate the front-to-rear vibration. The third damper extends from the rear of the tub in a longitudinal direction of the drum toward a back panel of the cabinet.

Applicants respectfully submit that this combination of elements as set forth in independent claim 5 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Myerscough and Ito et al.

Both Myerscough and Ito et al. disclose a pair of front dampers and a pair of rear dampers. Neither discloses a third damper extending from the rear of the tub in a longitudinal direction of the drum toward a back panel of the cabinet. Both Myerscough and Ito et al. disclose rear dampers extending downwardly to the bottom of the washing machine, not from the rear of the tub in a longitudinal direction of the drum toward a back panel of the cabinet, as is claimed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in independent claim 5 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Myerscough and Ito et al., for the reasons explained above. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

With regard to dependent claims 6-8 and 13, Applicants submit that these claims depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 5 which is allowable for the reasons set forth above, and therefore claims 6-8 and 13 are allowable. In addition, these claims recite further limitations which are not disclosed or made obvious by the applied prior art references. Reconsideration and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

New Claims

Claims 15-19 have been added for the Examiner's consideration. Applicants submit that claims 15-17 depend from independent claim 5, and are therefore allowable based on their dependence from claim 5 which is believed to be allowable. In addition, claims 15-17 recite further limitations which are not disclosed or made obvious by the applied prior art references.

Independent claim 18 recites a combination of elements in a drum type washing machine including a cabinet having a front wall, a rear wall, a left side wall and a right side wall, a tub having a sidewall and a rear wall, a first damper having a first end connected to the cabinet and a second end connected to the tub at a first point adjacent to the left side wall of the cabinet, a second damper having a first end connected to the cabinet and a second end connected to the tub at a second point adjacent to the right side wall of the cabinet and a third damper having a first end connected to the cabinet and a second end connected to the tub at a third point, the third point spaced from the left side wall and right side wall and being between the first and second point.

Applicant respectfully submits that this combination of elements as set forth in independent claim 18 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record. Claim 19 depends from independent claim 18, and is therefore allowable based on its dependence from claim 18 which is believed to be allowable. In addition, claim 19 recites further limitations which are not disclosed or made obvious by the applied prior art references.

Consideration and allowance of claims 15-19 are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patents relied on by the Examiner, either alone or in combination. In view of this, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chris McDonald, Reg. No. 41,533 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By  _____

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